

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-18. (Canceled)

19. (Currently amended) A shipping or trucking container which contains a plurality of sealed packages, each of the sealed packages comprising

- (a) a sealed polymeric bag , and
- (b) within the sealed polymeric bag, (i) bananas ~~which have passed their climacteric~~ and (ii) a packaging atmosphere around the bananas which comprises 1.5 to 6% O₂, less than 15% CO₂ , the total quantity of O₂ and CO₂ being less than 16%, and exogenous ethylene or the residue of exogenous ethylene;

the sealed polymeric bag

- (a) having an O₂ permeability at 13 °C. per kg of bananas in the package (OP13/kg), of at least 700 ml/atm.24 hrs and an R ratio at 13 °C of at least 3;
- (b) including at least one atmosphere control member which (i) provides a pathway for O₂, CO₂ and ethylene to enter or leave the packaging atmosphere, and (ii) comprises a microporous polymeric film and a polymeric coating on the microporous film.

20. (Previously presented) A shipping or trucking container according to Claim 19 wherein each of the plurality of sealed packages contains 16 to 22 kg of bananas.

21. (Currently amended) A sealed package comprising

- (a) a sealed polymeric bag , and

(b) within the sealed polymeric bag, (i) bananas ~~which have passed their climacteric~~ and (ii) a packaging atmosphere around the bananas which comprises 1.5 to 6% O₂, less than 15% CO₂, the total quantity of O₂ and CO₂ being less than 16%, and exogenous ethylene or a residue of exogenous ethylene;

the sealed polymeric bag comprising at least one atmosphere control member which (i) provides a pathway for O₂, CO₂ and ethylene to enter or leave the packaging atmosphere, and (ii) comprises a microporous polymeric film and a polymeric coating on the microporous film; and

the sealed polymeric bag having an O₂ permeability at 13 °C. per kg of bananas in the package (OP13/kg), of at least to 700 ml/atm.24 hrs and an R ratio at 13 °C of at least 2.

22. (Previously presented) A shipping or trucking container according to claim 19 wherein each of the plurality of sealed packages contains 2 to 5 lb. of bananas.

23. (Currently amended) A shipping or trucking container according to claim 19 wherein the bananas and the packaging atmosphere are the sole contents of each of the sealed bags.

24. (Currently amended) A package according to claim 21 wherein the bananas and the packaging atmosphere are the sole contents of the sealed bag.

25-26. (Canceled)

27. (New) A shipping or trucking container according to claim 19 wherein the sealed polymeric bag has an OP13/kg of at least 1000 ml/atm.24hrs. and an ethylene permeability at 13°C per kg of bananas (EtP13/kg) which is at least 2 times the OP13/kg.

28. (New) A shipping or trucking container according to claim 19 wherein the sealed polymeric bag has an OP13/kg of at least 1500 ml/atm.24hrs. and an ethylene permeability at 13°C per kg of bananas (EtP13/kg) which is at least 2 times the OP13/kg.

29. (New) A shipping or trucking container according to claim 19 wherein the sealed polymeric bag has an OP13/kg of at least 1500 ml/atm.24hrs. and an ethylene permeability at 13°C per kg of bananas (EtP13/kg) which is at least 3 times the OP13/kg.

30. (New) A shipping or trucking container according to claim 19 wherein the bananas have passed their climacteric.

31. (New) A shipping or trucking container according to claim 28 wherein the packaging atmosphere is at a temperature less than 18°C.

31. (New) A shipping or trucking container according to claim 28 wherein the packaging atmosphere is at a temperature less than 16°C.

32. (New) A package according to claim 21 wherein the sealed polymeric bag has an OP13/kg of at least 1000 ml/atm.24hrs. and an ethylene permeability at 13°C per kg of bananas (EtP13/kg) which is at least 2 times the OP13/kg.

33. (New) A package according to claim 21 wherein the sealed polymeric bag has an OP13/kg of at least 1500 ml/atm.24hrs. and an ethylene permeability at 13°C per kg of bananas (EtP13/kg) which is at least 2 times the OP13/kg.

34. (New) A package according to claim 21 wherein the sealed polymeric bag has an OP13/kg of at least 1500 ml/atm.24hrs. and an ethylene permeability at 13°C per kg of bananas (EtP13/kg) which is at least 3 times the OP13/kg.

35. (New) A package according to claim 21 wherein the bananas have passed their climacteric.

36. (New) A shipping or trucking container according to claim 33 wherein the packaging atmosphere is at a temperature less than 18°C.

37. (New) A shipping or trucking container according to claim 33 wherein the packaging atmosphere is at a temperature less than 16°C.